

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bernd Heitele Examiner: Matthew O. Savage

Serial No: 10/520,737 Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: January 10, 2005 Date: August 24, 2007

For: **FILTER APPLIANCE AND INNER CONTAINER FOR A FILTER APPLIANCE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir,

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed July 27, 2007, Applicant responds as follows.

The Examiner states that in accordance with 37 CFR §1.499, the applicant is required to elect a single invention from the following groups of inventions, which the Examiner states are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1:

Group I, claims 1-9, 21 and 22, drawn to a filter device.

Group II, claims 10-20 and 23-25, drawn to an inner filter device.

Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-9, 21 and 22, drawing to a filter device for prosecution on the merits.

Please note that a Preliminary Amendment is filed herewith which amends claims 10-20 and 23-25 to be ultimately dependent upon independent claim 1 and, therefore, further describe the inner container as claimed in claim 1. Accordingly, Examination of claims 1-25 is earnestly solicited.

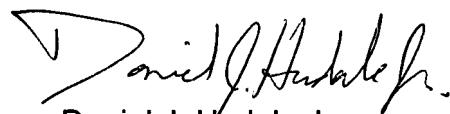
The Examiner states that the application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention for species 1-4 as shown in FIGS. 7-10.

Applicant hereby elects Species 1, relating to FIG. 7 for prosecution on the merits. Claims 10, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 23 are readable upon the elected species. It is believed that claims 1-9, 12 and 21-22 are generic.

Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns regarding this response, a telephone call to the undersigned is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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